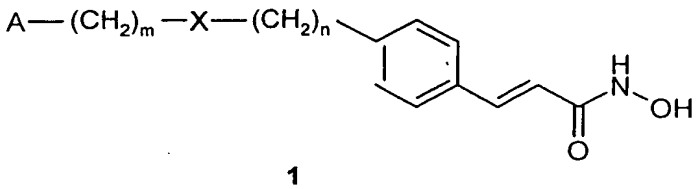
Claims

What is claimed is:

~~1.A compound represented by formula (1):~~



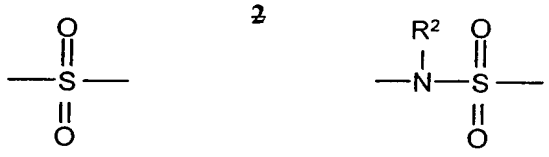
1

~~wherein A is an optionally substituted phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic group which has 1 to 4 substituents selected from the group consisiting of a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, an amino group, a nitro group, a cyano group, an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbons, an alkoxy group having 1 to 4 carbons, an aminoalkyl group having 1 to 4 carbons, an alkylamino group having 1 to 4 carbons, an acyl group having 1 to 4 carbons, an acylamino group having 1 to 4 carbons, an alkylthio group having 1 to 4 carbons, a perfluoroalkyl group having 1 to 4 carbons, a perfluoroalkoxy group having 1 to 4 carbons, a carboxyl group, an alkoxycarbonyl group having 1 to 4 carbons, a phenyl group, an aromatic heterocyclic group and a heterocyclic group, said heterocyclic group being optionally substituted with an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbons, a benzyl group, or a pyridylmethyl group;~~

~~m is an integer of 0 to 4;~~

~~n is an integer of 1 to 4;~~

~~X is a moiety having a structure selected from those illustrated in formula (2)~~



~~2~~

~~R^1 and R^2 are independently H or an optionally substituted alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbons; or~~

~~a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.~~

~~2.~~1. A compound ~~of formula (1) according to claim 1~~ selected from the group consisting of

N-[4-(2-Hydroxycarbamoylvinyl)benzyl]-4-pyrrolidin-1-ylbenzamide, and

4-Dimethylamino-*N*-[4-(2-hydroxycarbamoylvinyl)benzyl]benzamide; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

~~3.~~ 2. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound ~~of formula (1)~~ according to claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or diluent.

~~4.~~ 3. Use of a compound according to claim 1 for the preparation of a medicament having histone deacetylase (HDAC) inhibitory activity.

~~5. Use of a compound according to claim 4 as an inhibitor of cell proliferation.~~

~~6. Use of a compound according to claim 4 as an antitumor agent.~~